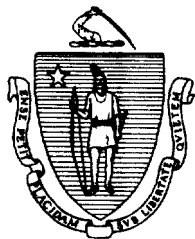


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COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
OFFICE OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND BUSINESS REGULATION

DEPARTMENT OF  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS & ENERGY

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December 14, 2000

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Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Re: EX PARTE -- CC Docket No. 00-176: Application by Verizon New England, Inc.,  
et al., for Authorization Under Section 271 of the Communications Act To Provide  
In-Region, InterLATA Service in Massachusetts

Dear Ms. Salas:

Yesterday afternoon, the Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Energy  
transmitted by facsimile the attached document at the request of and in response to questions  
posed by Rebecca Beynon, Legal Advisor to Commissioner Furchtgott-Roth.

In accordance with 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206 and the Federal Communications Commission's  
Public Notice issued on September 22, 2000 in this docket, an original and one copy of this  
submission are being filed with you, with copies to Ms. Susan Pié of the Policy and Program  
Planning Division of the Common Carrier Bureau.

Sincerely,

*William P. Agee*  
William P. Agee

Assistant General Counsel

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Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Energy's  
Responses to Commissioner Furchtgott-Roth's Questions:

1) Description of what is involved in filing a formal complaint.

Since 1996, inter-carrier disputes have been governed by procedures established in D.P.U. 94-185. This process has provided for (1) a mandatory 30-day negotiation period, and (2) a permissive 60-day mediation period. If resolution is not reached through negotiation or mediation, then an aggrieved party may petition the Department for an expedited investigation. The party must file a written petition that includes a comprehensive explanation of the dispute and all relevant supporting documentation. The Department is required to open an expedited investigation within 10 business days of receipt of a petition. The Department is required to issue an order no more than 60 days following the opening of the investigation.

Beginning January 1, 2001, these procedures will be superceded by new "Rocket Docket" dispute resolution rules, which provide for even quicker resolution of inter-carrier disputes.

2) A list of formal inter-carrier complaints filed since 1996 and the issues involved.

DTE 97-101 (complaint by RCN concerning Verizon's refusal to allow CLECs to resell its voicemail service)

DTE 97-114 (complaint by X-COM concerning alleged delays and inadequacies by Verizon in providing interconnection)

DTE 97-116 (complaint by MCI concerning Verizon's failure to pay reciprocal compensation of ISP-bound traffic)

DTE 98-18 (complaint by CTC Corp. concerning Verizon's policy requiring customers that break long-term service contracts in favor of a new local exchange carrier, to pay termination liabilities)

DTE 98-116 (complaint by Global NAPs concerning Verizon's refusal to provision dark fiber across LATA boundaries)

DTE 99-39 (complaint by Global NAPs concerning Verizon's failure to pay reciprocal compensation of ISP-bound traffic)

DTE 99-87 (complaint by New England Voice and Data concerning allegation that Verizon illegally restricts access to its conduit, filed pursuant to Dept. rules on access to rights-of-way)

Undocketed (Feb. 2000) (complaint by RCN concerning Verizon's failure to pay reciprocal compensation of ISP-bound traffic)



3) A list of formal inter-carrier complaints filed since during the last 16 months (i.e., since the opening of the Section 271 investigation).

DTE 99-87 (complaint by New England Voice and Data concerning allegation that Verizon illegally restricts access to its conduit, filed pursuant to Dept. rules on access to rights-of-way)

Undocketed (Feb. 2000) (complaint by RCN concerning Verizon's failure to pay reciprocal compensation of ISP-bound traffic)

4) A list of informal inter-carrier disputes brought to the Dept. since 1996.

TCG (12/96) (Verizon trunking capacity problem)

Focal (1997) (service problems)

MediaOne (3/97) (delays in Verizon activating MediaOne switches)

Brooks Fiber (5/97) (interconnection problems)

Sprint (7/97) (cooperative OSS testing)

Atlantic Connections (12/97) ( resale provisioning problems)

ACI (1998) (service problems)

Norfolk County Internet (1998) (interconnection problems)

MediaOne (1998) (number porting problems)

LBC Telephony (1998) (interconnection activation)

MediaOne (12/98) (Verizon's policy to not offer its toll services on a stand-alone basis to local exchange customers of CLECs)

CONNECT (2/5/99) (Verizon refusal to execute a negotiated interconnection agreement)

RNK (2/10/99) (Verizon billing problems)

MediaOne (6/9/99) (meet pt. interconnection problem)

MCI (10/99) (problem with provisioning of UNE loops through an optical remote switch)

Covad (12/99-2/00) (DSL loop provisioning)

Rhythms (4/00) (conversion of virtual collocation to cageless collocation)